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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Soviet Troops in Czechoslovakia

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1. In May 1953 a large group of Russian aviation officers came to Czechoslovakia. This commission was divided into three sections as advisers to the Czechoslovak Air Force, and it organized the support and ground crew personnel as well as training Czechoslovak fliers. They were established at the airfields of Bratislava, Kofice and Piestany.
2. Russian military advisers and training officers are stationed in practically all Czechoslovak training institutions, including military academies and cadet schools, all research centers and specialist schools. There are Soviet instructors with the garrisons of Karlovy Vary, Milowitz, Cesky-Krumlov, As, Vyskov, Strasitz, Niemess, Lepaja and Volary.
3. Russian military railroad commands were reestablished in Czechoslovakia in May 1953. They do not interfere with normal Czech railroad traffic, but handle everything concerned with Russian troop and supply movements. Their number is between 50 and 80 men.
4. The number of Russian military transport trains passing through Czechoslovakia increased greatly during 1953. The most probable reason is that the line running Brest Litovsk-Warsaw-Posen was rendered difficult by Polish partisan activity. The Czechoslovak border stations where the greatest increase of traffic was observed were Matovce-Uzhorod, Cierma-Nad and Tisou-Cap. At each of these stations there is a Russian station command of 50 or 100 men. The Russian trains consist of cars with changeable axle lengths. Ahead of each train the locomotive pushes several empty cars as a precaution against mines.

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